

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A semi-solid composition for use in single-dose form in personal oral, dental, or skin care, the composition comprising:

a homogenous and non-encapsulated single-dose gel bead comprised of a single dose of an active ingredient intimately mixed with ~~at least one~~ a gelling agent comprising agar,

wherein the bead has a mass between 0.25 and 2.0 grams,

wherein the bead has a compact, stable shape,

wherein the bead has an homogenous composition including between 0.5 and 1.2 percent agar by weight,

the ~~at least one~~ gelling agent providing a gel framework about the active ingredient, the gel framework configured to break ~~which breaks~~ apart and release the active ingredient when the gel bead is disrupted by a person in a personal oral, dental, or skin care procedure.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) [[A]] The semi-solid composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gelling agent includes agar at

a concentration in a range of from about 0.1 to about 2 per cent by weight.

4. (currently amended) [[A]] The semi-solid composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gelling agent comprises agar at a concentration in a range of from about 0.3 to about 0.95 per cent by weight.

5-6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) [[A]] The ~~bead comprised of a~~ semi-solid composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient is a dentifrice sufficient for a single dental care procedure, the gel framework being configured to be disrupted by any of the mouth of the person and against a toothbrush before a brushing procedure begins.

8. (currently amended) [[A]] The ~~bead comprised of a~~ semi-solid composition as claimed in claim 7, wherein the bead has a mass in the range of from about 0.4 gram to about 1 gram.

9. (canceled)

10. (withdrawn - currently amended) A kit or pack for use in ~~dental~~ personal care, including at least one bead of a

semi-solid gel as claimed in claim 7, wherein the bead is stored within a compartment within the kit or pack, the compartment comprising a depression formed in a deformable sheet, and covering means for covering the depression.

11. (withdrawn - currently amended) [[A]] The kit or pack for use in ~~dental~~ personal care as claimed in claim 10, wherein the pack further provides an application tool including means for contacting a plurality of surfaces of the person's teeth, so that after disruption of a bead and release of the at least one active ingredient adjacent to the teeth, use of the tool promotes cleansing of the teeth.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) [[A]] The semi-solid composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient comprises ~~one of a mouth freshener and~~ an oral disinfectant.

14-17. (canceled)

18. (withdrawn - currently amended) A kit or pack for use in ~~skin~~ personal care as ~~claimed in claim 16,~~ comprising:  
at least one bead having a semi-solid composition as recited in claim 1;

~~wherein the pack includes~~ at least one application  
tool[[,]]i; and

~~at least one bead of a semi solid composition held~~  
~~within corresponding cavities within~~ a blister pack,

wherein the bead and the application tool are contained  
within corresponding cavities within the blister pack.

19-22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended) A semi-solid homogeneous gel  
bead for use in single-dose form in personal oral, dental or skin  
care, comprising:

a gelling agent comprising agar; and

an active dentifrice ingredient intimately mixed with  
said gelling agent to form a mixed homogeneous composition,

wherein the composition has a semi-solid form,

wherein said gelling agent provides a gel framework to  
contain said active ingredient during storage, and

wherein the gel framework is configured to break apart  
and release said active ingredient upon being forcibly disrupted  
by a person in any of an oral, dental, or skin care procedure.

24. (previously presented) The semi-solid bead as  
claimed in claim 23, wherein said gelling agent includes agar at a  
concentration ranging between 0.1% by weight to 2% by weight.

25. (previously presented) The semi-solid bead as claimed in claim 23, wherein said gelling agent includes agar at a concentration ranging between 0.3% by weight to 0.95% by weight.

26. (currently amended) The semi-solid bead as claimed in claim 23, wherein said gelling agent further includes gelatin at a concentration ranging between 1% by weight to 4% by weight.

27. (previously presented) The semi-solid bead as claimed in claim 23, wherein the composition has a mass ranging between 0.4 grams to 1 gram.

28. (new) The semi-solid composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gelling agent includes agar at a concentration in a range of from about 0.7 to about 0.9 per cent by weight.

29. (new) The semi-solid composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient comprises a skin care product.

30. (new) A semi-solid composition for use in single-dose form in personal oral, dental, or skin care, the composition comprising:

a homogenous and non-encapsulated single-dose gel bead comprised of a single dose of an active ingredient intimately

mixed with a gelling agent, the gelling agent comprising carrageenan,

wherein the bead has a mass between 0.25 and 2.0 grams,

wherein the bead has a compact, stable shape,

wherein the bead has an homogenous composition including between 0.1 and 4 percent carrageenan by weight

the gelling agent providing a gel framework about the active ingredient, the gel framework configured to break apart and release the active ingredient when the gel bead is disrupted by a person in a personal oral, dental, or skin care procedure.

31. (withdrawn - new) The semi-solid composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the bead is formed by the steps of:

fully dissolving a mixture comprising the agar and the active ingredient in hot water at a first temperature of about 95-100 degrees Celsius, the active ingredient being capable of withstanding the first temperature;

cooling the mixture;

adding additional active ingredients inherently unstable at the first temperature;

dispensing the mixture having a molten state in controlled single dose quantities; and

further cooling the mixture to become a semi-solid gel.

32. (withdrawn - new) The semi-solid composition as claimed in claim 31, wherein the mixture is dispensed into a plurality of receiving means for cooling into a semi-solid gel.

33. (withdrawn - new) The semi-solid composition as claimed in claim 32, wherein the receiving means comprises an array of cavities in a blister pack.